Listing and Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.(currently amended) A method of compensating for offset in a received signal, the signal being modified by a sequence of symbols, each symbol extending over T_s signal samples, ~~the method~~ comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a) dividing the received signal into frames;

(b) dividing each frame into a plurality of N_b sub-frames, wherein each sub-frame overlaps an adjacent sub-frame;

(c) forming N_b sequences of values, the values being derived from the corresponding sub-frame within each frame; and

(d) taking said N_b sequences as successive estimates of a frame sequence correctly aligned ~~(~~to the sequence of symbols.

2.(currently amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein each frame is of predetermined length Ts.

3.(currently amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein there is an inter-frame overlap of an adjacent frame.

4.   (cancelled)

5.(currently amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein N_b lies within the range 2 to 8.

6.(currently amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein the sequence of symbols comprises L_w symbols, the received signal being divided into L_F frames, wherein L_F is an ~~integral~~ integer multiple of L_w.

7. (currently amended) A~~The~~ method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein said sequence of symbols comprises a sequence of values convolved with a window shaping function that has a band limited frequency behavior and ~~a~~ is smoothed according to a smoothing factor s, ~~temporal behavior~~.

8.   (cancelled).

9. (currently amended) A~~The~~ method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein said sequence of symbols comprises a sequence of at least one of raised cosine functions or bi-phase functions.

10. (currently amended) A~~The~~ method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, wherein said offset is a time offset.

11. (currently amended) A The method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 1, ~~the method~~ further comprising processing each estimate as though it were the correctly aligned frame sequence~~, so as to~~ for determin~~e~~ing which estimate is ~~the~~ a best estimate.

12. (currently amended) A~~The~~ method ~~as claimed in~~of claim 11, wherein the best estimate is assumed to be ~~the~~ a first estimate that, when processed, exceeds one or more predetermined conditions; said processing of estimates stopping once the best estimate has been determined.

13. (currently amended) A~~The~~ method ~~as claimed in~~of claim [[1]]12, ~~the method~~ further comprising:

        ~~the step of~~ correlating each of said estimates with a reference corresponding to said sequence of symbols; and

        taking the estimate with ~~the~~ a maximum correlation peak value as the best estimate.

14.(currently amended) A~~The~~ method ~~as~~of claim 11, wherein once a first best estimate has been determined for a first signal or portion of a signal, the method is repeated for a further received signal or portion of a signal, the estimates from said further signal being processed in an order dependent upon said first best estimate.

15.(currently amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable code for, when executed by a computer, performing ~~program arranged to perform~~ the method as claimed in claim 1.

16.   (cancelled)

17. (original) A method of making available for downloading a computer program as claimed in claim 15.

18.(currently amended) An apparatus arranged to compensate for offset in a received signal, the signal being modified by a sequence of symbols, each symbol extending over T_s signal samples, ~~the apparatus~~ comprising:

        a divider arranged to divide the received signal into frames;

        a divider arranged to divide each frame into a plurality of N_b sub-frames, wherein each sub-frame overlaps an adjacent sub-frame; and

        a processor arranged to form N_b sequences of values, the values being derived from the corresponding sub-frame within each frame; and to take said N_b sequences as successive estimates of a frame sequence correctly aligned with the sequence of symbols.

19.   (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus ~~claimed in~~of claim 18, the apparatus further comprising a buffer arranged to store said N_b sequences.

20.   (currently amended) A decoder arranged to compensate for offset in a received signal, the signal being modified by a sequence of symbols, each symbol extending over T_s signal samples, comprising:

a divider arranged to divide the received signal into frames;

a divider arranged to divide each frame into a plurality of N_b sub-frames, wherein each sub-frame overlaps an adjacent sub-frame; and

a processor arranged to form N_b sequences of values, the values being derived from the corresponding sub-frame within each frame; and to take said N_b sequences as successive estimates of a frame sequence correctly aligned with the sequence of symbols.

comprising the apparatus as claimed in claim 18.